



## CLUB NOTES

### In this issue:

- Club Notes
- Public Lectures
- Calendar and Events
- Kid's Corner
- Club History Moment
- Featured Photo
- 2024 Member Events
- On This Day

Welcome back and we all hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season.

SAAA just completed one of our most successful years. Our membership is at a record level, our outreach programs are numerous and very successful, the observatory is meeting all of our expectations (and more), and we have had very enthusiastic groups display wonder and joy at the sights they see.

With the new year will come new ideas and opportunities, adding to the progress we've already made. One of our goals last year was to increase the number of members involved in various aspects of our organization, such as this Newsletter. That increased involvement shined at last month's meeting. One of our goals is to build on what we have begun and continue our progress all through the new year.



We have recently seen a significant increase in the utilization of the planetarium by WOPS. They have cleaned out the facility, made some repairs, and upgraded the lighting. More importantly, though, is that now the school's teaching staff and administration are working together with us to make better use of this important piece of history.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the 11th.

Just a reminder: if you have not already paid the membership dues for 2024, please do so by January 11. You can take care of this at the January membership meeting.

Peter  
Peter Burkey  
President, SAAA



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## January Sky

As Ed Sullivan would say, this month features a "really big show", starring Venus, Mercury, and Mars, with special guest stars Antares and the crescent Moon.

Because of the rarity of observing opportunities this month, I would suggest you plan ahead and determine which dates on your schedule will allow some observing time. Then set aside those dates and mark them on your calendar. Pick your target and take along a Sky Calendar or other publication to help identify what you are observing. You may also consider bringing your telescope, binoculars, and/or naked eye to the Hemlock Crossing Observatory and a notebook to record your sightings.

Beginning on the next clear night, look for the planet Jupiter high above the southern horizon. It will be with us all month, along with several friends from the morning sky, Venus, Mercury, and Mars. Those three will sneak above the southeastern horizon and be well positioned 40 minutes before sunrise.

...PB



Please make sure to review your membership for 2024 (before 1/11). Here is the link...

<https://www.holland-saaa.org/membership-info>

You can take care of your 2024 Membership Dues at our Membership meeting on the 11th!!

## Calendar and Upcoming Events



### Public Observing

**When** Weather Permitting Every FRI evening 7PM.

**Where** Hemlock Crossing Public Observatory, 8115 W Olive Rd, West Olive, MI 49460, USA

**Description** The observatory is open from our start time until 11 PM (weather and clear sky permitting, see note above after October 14<sup>th</sup>). There are no entry fees. Please be aware that the park gate closes automatically at 10 PM sharp, therefore visitors must arrive before 10 PM to enter the park. You will be able to leave as you wish.

**Visible night sky objects:** planets, the Moon, deep sky objects like galaxies, star clusters and planetary nebulae.

### Next Club Meeting

**When** Thu, January 11th, 7pm – 9pm

**Where** Planetarium at Mac Bay School (map is linked on our Website: [www.holland-saaa.org](http://www.holland-saaa.org))

## Upcoming Events

### SAAA events

Today ◀ ▶ January 2024 ▾ Print Week Month Agenda ▾

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	Jan 1	2	3	4	5	6
					7pm Public Obs	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			6pm Night Sky 7pm Club Meeti	7pm Public Obs	7pm Artemis, R	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		7pm Artemis, R		7pm Public Obs		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				7pm Public Obs		
28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
				7pm Public Obs		

**For More Information on Any Event**

**Please go to [www.holland-saaa.org](http://www.holland-saaa.org)**



Space Place: <https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/> A place where kids and grown-ups have fun with space and technology.

NASA Climate Kids: It's all about climate. <https://climatekids.nasa.gov/>



SciJinks: It's all about weather! <https://scijinks.gov/>

## Club History Moment: May 1989

### WELCOME

#### TO AMATEUR ASTRONOMY!

Last November, three of us sat for several hours in a local restaurant sipping coffee and arguing and discussing all aspects we could think of on starting a new organization. The discussion centered on four main topics:

- \* 1) Should we or shouldn't we start an amateur astronomical association?
- \* 2) What our assessments were of the chances of success or failure of such an adventure.
- \* 3) What needed to be done to actually get the association going.
- \* 4) Once started, what did we need to do or offer to the membership to keep the association viable and growing?

The decision of the three collaborators was, "Let's try it and see what happens."

As I look at the already growing and enthusiastic membership of our fledgling group, I am pleased at the response to our invitation to those with a love of the sky to join us in the formation and initiation of an amateur astronomy association. If we continue, and even expand, our growth patterns and, most importantly, our enthusiasm, we never need to worry about the health and vitality of the Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association.

Dr. Phil (Doc) Hill  
335-3334



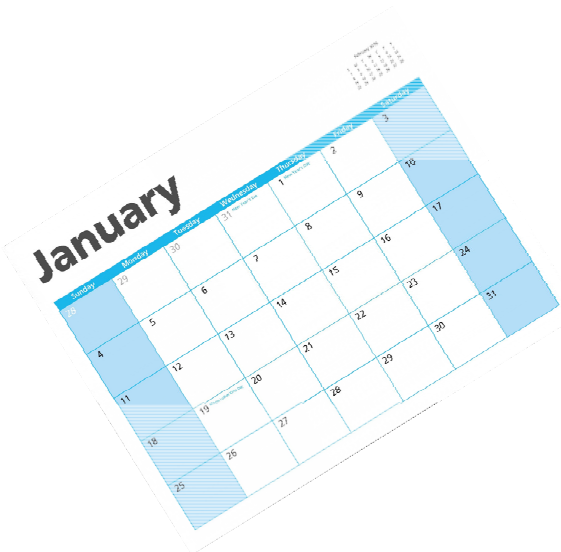
Photograph left:  
**Mike Cortright ©**  
Please see our website for  
more of Mike's work.  
<https://www.holland-saaa.org/>

# 2024 Lecture Schedule

Date	Time	Title	Presenter
13-Jan	7:00 PM	Lecture: Artemis, Return to the Moon	Michael Cortright
10-Feb	7:00 PM	Lecture: OSIRIS-REx Asteroid Return Mission Findings	Mike Long
9-Mar	7:00 PM	Lecture: April 2024 Total Solar Eclipse	Harold Reitsema
13-Apr	8:00 PM	Lecture: Spring and Summer Sky	Karl Rijkse
11-May	8:00 PM	Lecture: Women in Astronomy	Peter Burkey
8-Jun	dusk	Observatory: Public Night	SAAA Members
13-Jul	dusk	Observatory: Public Night	SAAA Members
10-Aug	dusk	Observatory: Public Night	SAAA Members
14-Sep	8:00 PM	Lecture: Astronomy in Art	Frank Roldan
12-Oct	7:00 PM	Lecture: Finding Things in the Night Sky	Barry Schoenfelner
9-Nov	7:00 PM	Lecture: Telescope Basics	Frank Roldan

## On This Day ...

- Jan. 1: Asteroid Ceres discovered by Giuseppe Piazzi - 1801
- Jan. 4: NASA cancels further production of Saturn V rockets - 1970
- Jan. 13: Galileo discovers Ganymede, moon of Jupiter - 1610
- Jan. 19: New Horizons spacecraft launched on its journey to Pluto - 2006
- Jan. 27: Apollo 1 astronauts Chaffee, White and Grissom die in fire in capsule-1967
- Jan. 28: Seven astronauts killed when Space Shuttle Challenger explodes during launch - 1986



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Previous Issues of our newsletters are found on our website at:

[Holland-saaa.org](http://Holland-saaa.org)